

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

Quarterly Update

Volume 1, Winter Issue

December, 2004

New York Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program



Photo: M. Keena

Report an ALB sighting:

877-STOP-ALB

Contents:

NYC Wood Debris	1
New Jersey Removals	1
Case Study Released	2
Host Guide Released	2
Recent Detections	4
Upcoming Events	4
Contacts	4
Staten Island Event	5



Asian Longhorned Beetle
Anoplophora glabripennis
(Actual Size)

New Wood Debris Collection Guidelines Announced

NEW YORK – Parks & Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe and Department of Sanitation Commissioner John J. Doherty announced new wood debris guidelines in the City's continued effort to curb the spread of the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB). Sections of Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens currently fall within a Federal and New York State quarantine zone for the ALB. To date, agriculture officials have removed and destroyed more than 7,000 trees in New York—nearly 4,000 of which were in New York City. "The Asian longhorned beetle can have a devastating impact on our City's and our nation's trees," said Commissioner Benepe. "Residents of the three boroughs can help stop the spread of the beetle by simply calling 311 when discarding any and all tree prunings, firewood and other organic woody debris. Our goal is to eradicate this highly destructive insect from New York."

"We are pleased to be working in conjunction with the Parks Department in



New York City Parks & Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe (right) and Sanitation Commissioner John J. Doherty (left) announced new wood debris guidelines. Photo courtesy of New York City Parks & Recreation.

an effort to control the spread of these pesky beetles that have proven to be a very real threat to our City's beautiful landscape," said Commissioner Doherty. "I urge New Yorkers looking to discard the appropriate types of wood and wood products to call 311 and schedule an appointment with the Parks Department's mobile tree and branch chipping service so that we can stop the spread of these troublesome insects."

See Wood Debris page 3

Tree Removal Begins in New Jersey

NEW JERSEY – Workers began cutting down trees infested with the Asian longhorned beetle in Middlesex and Union counties on Monday, November 29. To date, 410 trees have been identified as infested, meaning they have evidence of the beetle's eggs being laid in them or have exit holes indicating larvae have matured and the adult beetle has exited after burrowing through the tree's heartwood. The vast majority of those trees have been found in Carteret and Woodbridge, Middlesex County, with a few each in Rahway and Linden in Union County.

In addition to those trees, potential host trees near infested ones also must be removed to ensure the beetle does not return. In the first phase of cutting, roughly 1,000 trees are expected to be removed to halt the beetle's spread. Eventually, as many as 4,000 trees will have to come down. A reforestation program, replacing those trees with varieties the beetle will not infest, will follow.

"The team working to eradicate this invasive pest from our state has enjoyed a high level of cooperation with local officials and residents as they have inspected trees to find

See New Jersey page 3



Chicago vs. the Asian Longhorned Beetle Case Study Released

CHICAGO, IL – The USDA Forest Service released a case study detailing the success of the Chicago Asian longhorned beetle eradication program.

The objective of *Chicago vs. The Asian Longhorned Beetle: A Portrait of Success* is to offer State and local government officials and interested community members a blueprint for recognizing and effectively dealing with invasive/exotic insect pest emergencies.

"It was clear to everyone involved that the Chicago ALB eradication program was a success," said case study co-author Judy Antipin of the USDA Forest Service. "We felt there was great value in trying to identify the factors leading to that success. We also wanted to give the people

affected by this invasive insect emergency a chance to tell their important and fascinating story."

"The experience of the past decade shows that appearances of these unwelcome and dangerous tree pests are on the rise. Urban and suburban forests have so far borne the brunt of this onslaught, but without diligent campaigns of detection and eradication, all of the Nation's forests are at risk," stated on page 4 of the case study.

For a copy of the case study contact:

Judy Antipin

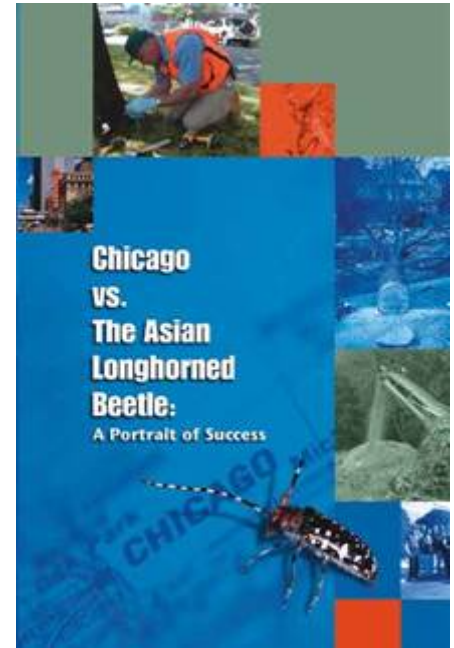
USDA Forest Service

11 Campus Blvd., Suite 200

Newtown Square, PA 19073

jantipin@fs.fed.us

Phone: 610.557.4183



Landscaper's Guide to ALB Host Trees Released

BURLINGTON, VT – The University of Vermont Entomology Research Laboratory has released "The Landscaper's Guide to the Asian Longhorned Beetle and its Host Trees." The 52-page color booklet provides basic information to landscapers on the Asian longhorned beetle, its host trees and egg sites.

The contents will help in the identification of the hosts and the beetle. It also contains useful information on ALB lifecycle and non-host replacement trees.

"Personnel in the 'Green Industry' are outside looking at trees all the time and represent a valuable resource for early detection of ALB infestations," said entomologist Dr. Margaret Skinner of the University of Vermont. "We hope this reference will

encourage their greater involvement in ALB eradication."

Production of the guide, which is also available in Spanish, was supported by the New York State Urban and Community Forestry Council and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation through funds provided by the USDA Forest Service.

For more information about the Landscaper's Guide contact:

New York State DEC

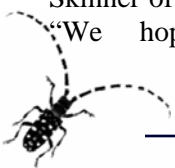
Lands and Forests

47-40 21st Street

Long Island City, NY 11101

Phone: 718-482-6440

mxsherem@gw.dec.state.ny.us



Wood Debris (cont. from page 1)

"The handling of wood waste generated by private homeowners is a significant problem with the potential to inadvertently spread ALB out of established quarantine," said Joseph Gittleman, Co-Director of the Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program for the USDA. "The Mayor's Office and Parks & Recreation are to be applauded for making the funds available and taking this important step in helping to eradicate the ALB from New York City and New York State."

The New York City Department of Sanitation will no longer collect firewood and wood from trees growing on residential properties in Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn. The New York City Department of Parks & Recreation will provide free on-site wood chipping and disposal. In order to schedule an appointment, residents of Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens

must call the New York City Citizen Service Center at 311 or request a pick-up online at www.nyc.gov/parks.

Wood must be placed curbside between 6 p.m. and 12 a.m. the night before the scheduled appointment. Appointments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis within established pick-up areas. Wood eligible for on-site chipping includes firewood or organic (i.e. green or untreated) woody debris from trees and shrubs, including living, dead, cut, or fallen branches, twigs, logs, stumps, roots, and anything ½ inch or over in diameter.

The Department of Sanitation will continue to service treated or painted lumber, which includes wood furniture, wood pallets, and building lumber, as well as mulch, chips and leaves. In addition, any organic woody debris that is generated from commercial activity is *not* eligible for the program.

New Jersey (cont. from page 1)

evidence of the beetle," New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Charles M. Kuperus said. "We want to ensure that kind of cooperation continues as we move through the tree-cutting phase, so we will address any questions about how this will be done, when it will be done and why it *must* be done."

Asian longhorned beetles, native to China, Japan and Korea, have caused serious tree losses in New York State and Chicago. Only once before were the beetles found attacking trees in New Jersey, in Jersey City in October 2002. More than 100 infested trees and 400 trees total at that site were removed to eradicate the beetle.

The beetle can wreak havoc on

hardwood trees such as maples, horsechestnuts, birches and elms. The female bores into the bark to lay her eggs. Once hatched, the grub-like young burrow deeper into the tree until finally reaching the woody tissue. A year later, as adults, they burrow back out. Ultimately, as many beetles burrow through a tree, the tree is killed from the inside out. Trees can become so riddled with burrowed tunnels that they become unsafe, especially during high winds or storms.

Asian longhorned beetles are about 1 to 1.5 inches long and have a shiny, black exterior with white spots. Their name comes from their long antennae, which are banded black and white and are roughly the same length or longer

The Asian longhorned beetle, native to China, Japan and Korea, is a voracious pest of the United States' deciduous hardwood forests and urban landscape. The beetle reappeared this summer in the Upper East Side of Manhattan, Long Island City in Queens, and the neighborhoods of Bedford-Stuyvesant, Williamsburg and Prospect Heights/Clinnton Hill in Brooklyn. According to the U.S. Forest Service, there are 5.2 million trees in New York City on both public and private property. Parks & Recreation cares for more than 2.5 million trees on City streets and in City parks; more than half are potential host species for the ALB.

For more information on the ALB, visit the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service website at www.aphis.usda.gov, click on Asian longhorned beetle under "Hot Issues."



Tree being removed from Carteret, NJ. Photo courtesy of Rosa Yoo, DEP-NJ Forest Service Community Forestry Program.

than the insect's body.

Anyone suspecting the presence of this beetle should contact the NJDA at 1-866-BEETLE-1 or (609) 292-5440. For more information, visit the NJDA website at www.state.nj.us/agriculture



CONTACTS

NY Beetle Sighting
(877) STOP-ALB

**NJ ALB
Information**
(866) BEETLE1

Long Island Office
(631) 598-5943

Brooklyn Office
(718) 852-4685

Queens Office
(718) 747-6758

Manhattan Office
(212) 337-2645

Tree Replanting
NYS-DEC
Lands & Forests
(718) 482-6440

Questions or comments on
this publication should be
directed to:



Michael Bohne
320 Merrick Rd
Amityville, NY
11701

Phone: (631) 598-5943
Fax: (631) 598-5963
E-mail: mbohne@fs.fed.us

New York ALB Outreach Events

Compliance Training Schedule

Dec. 16th 9am–12:30pm
Massapequa Town Hall

Jan. 20th 9 – 11am
Babylon Town Hall Annex

Feb. 17th 10am – 12pm
Brooklyn Botanic Garden

For more information call:
(631) 288-1751

*DEC pesticide credits and ISA credits are
available at compliance trainings*

December

- 5 Staten Island ALB Workshop (see page 5)
- 9 Prospect Park Volunteer Training

January

- 25 Plant-O-Rama, Brooklyn Botanic Garden
- 29-30 Westchester Home and Garden Expo
Pleasantville, NY

Contact (631) 598-5943
to set up an ALB event.

Latest New York Infestations

Brooklyn: An infested tree was found in Clinton Hill on 10/21/04

Long Island: An infested tree was found in Massapequa on 12/08/03

Manhattan: An infested tree was found in the Upper East Side on
11/17/04

Queens: Four infested trees were found in Long Island City between
8/25/04 & 9/2/04

Information available on the web at:

Forest Service: www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/alb/index.htm

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: www.aphis.usda.gov

University of Vermont Entomology Research Laboratory: www.uvm.edu/albeetle

New York City Parks & Recreation: www.nycgovparks.org

About the program...

The New York Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program includes participation from USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA Forest Service, USDA Agricultural Research Service, New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.





An Into The Outdoors Program:

Staten Island's Trees and the Asian Longhorned Beetle

- Learn how to identify susceptible trees
- Learn about new infestations in New Jersey
- Discuss ongoing efforts and infestations, and how they may affect New York's greenest borough

Sunday, December 5, 2004

1:30 PM

Greenbelt Nature Center

700 Rockland Avenue, at the intersection of Brielle Avenue
Staten Island, New York

For additional information, call 718-482-6440 or email mxsherem@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Presented by the USDA Forest Service, New York State DEC's Forest Health Program, New Jersey's Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Greenbelt Nature Center.

The Greenbelt Nature Center is operated by the
NYC Department of Parks & Recreation and The Greenbelt Conservancy

Primary support of Into the Outdoors has been provided by SI Bank & Trust Foundation.
Additional supporters are Con Edison, New York City Environmental Fund and Time Warner Cable.

